

CLAIMS

1. A breather sheet for use in the curing of a composite part comprising two distinct, affixed outer layers with a mesh layer interposed therebetween, each of the outer layers being provided with a plurality of holes prior to
5 assembly of the breather sheet, the holes being configured and disposed such that when the two outer layers are fixed together to form the breather sheet a plurality of passageways is formed for air and/or volatiles to pass freely through the breather sheet, the passageways being configured and disposed such that that the interposition of the mesh layer in any position
10 or orientation relative to the outer layers does not substantially obstruct all of the passageways.
2. A breather sheet as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the outer layers are made of a semi-rigid material.
3. A breather sheet as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the mesh layer is
15 incompressible in one plane.
4. A breather sheet as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the outer layers and mesh layer are bonded together with adhesive.
5. A breather sheet as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein at least a portion of the circumference of the breather sheet is adapted to
20 abut another breather sheet in such a way that adjacent breather sheets can be used to form a composite breather pack.
6. A breather sheet as claimed in any of the preceding claims pre-formed to the required shape for the composite component.
7. A method of assembly of a breather sheet comprising two other layers and
25 a mesh layer such that the assembled breather sheet has a plurality of passageways therethrough for the free passage of air and/or volatiles, the method comprising interposing a mesh layer between two other layers, each of which is provided with a plurality of holes prior to assembly, aligning the two outer layers and the mesh layer, and fixing the layers
30 together to form a unitary breather sheet.

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8. A method according to Claim 7 comprising bonding the two outer layers together with the mesh sandwiched there between.
9. A method according to Claim 7 or 8 comprising shaping the two outer layers to form a breather sheet of a predetermined shape.
- 5 10. Use of a breather sheet as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 6 in the curing of a composite part.